

**IFHOHYP**  
International Federation of  
Hard of Hearing Young People

## Annual General Meeting 2016 Minutes

### Washington D.C. USA 26.06.2016

#### 1. Presidential Address: Welcome and Opening Remarks

Meeting started at 09:16 by Bowen Tang, Secretary, followed by Sidsel Munkebo Hansen, President who participated remotely via live video feed. A full transcript of her opening remarks is included below:

*One of my own personal highlights is our Summer Camp held in Denmark just within 1,5 months from now. It is no secret that I'm very thrilled that we, at this moment - 1,5 year after the very first meetings with our cooperative partners in Denmark - are having registrations from 60 young hard of hearing participants, coming from 12 different countries. And we have a very great program with only few details missing – there will be a lot of teambuilding, exciting workshops and presentations on music, culture and international relations – as well as a lot of outdoor activities, beach party, whole-day trip to Copenhagen and all its sights and in the end a big gala dinner. I'm very proud of the efforts made by the planning team situated in Denmark as well as the rest of the IFHOHYP board for their contribution to the realization of this big event. Actually there is four days left for registration, so this is your final chance for a lifetime experience!*

*It's also my last AGM as a president and board member as you all know. I had to realize that the time and flexibility this engagement deserve isn't there anymore, now that I've founded a family. I step back with mixed feelings. I'm incredible sad because I'm still passionate about IFHOHYP, the people and our cause - and not least I will really miss the people I have worked with, especially the board members, Alper, Daria, Bowen, Ece and Victor - it's been a pleasure working together with you guys. You are all very talented and you are awesome and fun to hang out with, even when we were having marathon-board-meetings on skype and difficult tasks to overcome. You can always count on me as a resource, if you need feedback or a second thought on anything in the new board. At the same time, I'm also filled up with happiness at this moment. I'm very proud of having been a part of the first baby steps this organisation is taking towards a stable structure and a new strategy which will enable us to have educational activities for young Hard of Hearing and making this group visible at an international level. And I'm also happy because of the very qualified candidates for the board, which means it will become a very strong board, and therefore it is much easier for me to hand everything over ☺ I hope the new board will keep being ambitious although it requires a lot of hard work.*

*My final words as president will be to encourage you all to keep being committed and ambitious in your great work for the hard of hearing youth - both in your home countries as well in the international community as our network in IFHOHYP. Remember that every small or big volunteering contribution can have bigger impact, than you know – and that every contribution helps IFHOHYP becoming a powerful voice of the young hard of hearing.*

#### 2. Election of Chairperson of the Meeting

Rasmus Draklander, Sweden. No objections.

#### 3. Election of the Secretary/ies of the Meeting

Bowen Tang, Canada. No objections.

4. Election of the Inspectors of the Minutes and Vote Counters (2)

Avi Blau, Israel and Juha Hietala, Finland. No objections.

5. Stating the Members of IFHOHYP incl. new/dissolved members

Organization Name	Country
Academy of Sports and Education for Deaf of Tunisia	Tunisia
AFaMUT	Italy
Bangladesh Hard of Hearing Association	Bangladesh
Bundesjugend	Germany
Canadian Hard of Hearing Association	Canada
Česká Unie Neslyšících (CUN)	Czech Republic
FADCY	Russia
Høreforeningen (HF)	Denmark
Hørselshemmedes Landsforbunds Ungdom (HLFU)	Norway
İsitme Engelliler ve Aileleri Derneği (IEAD)	Turkey
Jugehörig (JH)	Switzerland
Kuuloliitto Ry	Finland
SHRUTI	Nepal
Sh-Jong	Netherlands
Surdus Loquens	Poland
Svenska Hörselförbundet R.F.	Finland
Uganda Federation of Hard of Hearing (UFHOH)	Uganda
Unga Hörselskadade (UH)	Sweden

Two members were dissolved at the AGM:

Organization Name	Country
Bekol	Israel
Hard of Hearing Young People Foundation	USA

One new member was welcomed at the AGM:

Organization Name	Country
Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA)	USA

6. Stating the Delegates and Observers in the meeting

0	Rehn	Victor	Finland	IFHOHYP	Board
0	Tang	Bowen	Canada	IFHOHYP	Board
1	Cox	Tasha	Canada	CHHA	Delegate
2	Panicheva	Daria	Russia	FADCY	Delegate
3	Holkins	Patrick	USA	HAAA	Delegate
4	Holden	Martin	Norway	HLFU	Delegate
5	Poulsen	Aida Regel	Denmark	Høreforeningen	Delegate
6	Coskun	Alper	Turkey	IED	Delegate
7	Rohrbach	Manuel	Switzerland	Jugehörig	Delegate
8	Junttila	Jenna	Finland	Kuuloliitto Ry	Delegate
9	Bhattarai	Neeta	Nepal	SHRUTI	Delegate
10	Mattjus	Camilla	Finland	Svenska Hörsselförbundet	Delegate
11	Wahlström	Jonathan	Sweden	Unga Hörselskadade	Delegate

1	Connors	Jessica	Canada	CHHA	Observer
2	Ho	Rosalind	Canada	CHHA	Observer
3	Mitrovic	Tara	Canada	CHHA	Observer
4	Storsletten	Glenn	Norway	HLFU	Observer
5	Wikstrom	Johan	Finland	Svenska Hörsselförbundet	Observer
6	Olsson	Elvira	Sweden	Unga Hörselskadade	Observer
7	Wikander	Elin	Sweden	Unga Hörselskadade	Observer
8	Draklander	Rasmus	Sweden	IFHOHYP	Observer
9	Blau	Avi	Israel	IFHOH	Observer
10	Warick	Ruth	Canada	IFHOH	Observer
11	Hietala	Juha	Finland	EFHOH	Observer

For the first time there are three remote participants at the AGM:

Hansen	Sidsel	Denmark	IFHOHYP	Board
Belhouane	Mona	Tunisia	ASEDT	Observer
Kwekkeboom	Sara	Netherlands	SH-Jong	Observer

Question from Sh-Jong: Sara, the representative, asked why she was marked as an observer.

Answer from the Board: Daria, Treasurer, explained that Sh-Jong did not pay membership fee for this year and thus according to the AGM working format, Sh-Jong does not have a voting status.

7. Verifying the Authority of the Meeting.

The AGM has quorum with 3 board members, 11 delegates, and 13 observers. Approved.

8. Approval of the Agenda of the Meeting

Approved; no objections.

9. Approval of the Minutes of the AGM 2015.

Approved; no objections.

#### 10. Presentation of the Annual Report 2015-2016

Bowen, Secretary and Victor, Board Member, presented the activities of the organization from December 2015 to June 2016. Highlights include representation at European Day of Persons with Disabilities, UN Conference of State Parties on CRPD, and continual partnership with EFHOH & IFHOH. It was also announced here that IFHOHYP has been accepted for a study session in Spring 2017.

#### 11. Presentation of the Financial Report 2015

Daria, Treasurer, presented the financial report. An operational grant of €16,228.30 was received in 2015 and as such, IFHOHYP was able to fund more activities and representation compared to previous years. As of December 31<sup>st</sup> 2015, IFHOHYP has a surplus of €11,792.30.

#### 12. Presentation of the Auditor's Report 2015

Jenna Juntilla, the Auditor, presented and read aloud her report:

As auditor of IFHOHYP I have checked the financial report, the financial statements including bank statements and vouchers, and the minutes of the board meetings. The incomes and expenses of 2015 are correct in the financial report.

The minutes were written in a very clear way, very easy to read. Although, the format of the minutes of the board meetings could follow a similar template no matter who writes them.

Also I would recommend more detailed financial reports for the events, where the money is used precisely and not just the final costs. In addition it would be desirable that the expenses are paid as accurately as possible during the same year when expenses are used.

#### 13. Approval of Annual Report, Financial Report, and Auditor's Report

Approved; no objections.

Note: After this point, Sara from Sh-Jong stated that membership payment has been submitted to IFHOHYP, verified by Daria, Treasurer. A motion was called to accept Sh-Jong as a voting member with Sara being the delegate. Approved; no objections.

The new quorum was declared: 3 board members, 12 delegates, and 12 observers.

#### 14. Presentation of EFHOH/IFHOH

Aïda Regel Poulsen, Secretary of EFHOH, presented to the AGM.  
Ruth Warick, President of IFHOH, presented to the AGM.

#### 15. Presentation and Approval of the Plan of Action 2016-2017

Victor, Board Member, presented the Plan of Action. Approved; no objections.

#### 16. Presentation and Approval of the Budget 2017

Daria, Treasurer, presented the Budget. Approved; no objections.

## 17. Election of the Officers of the Board

Alper, Vice-President, presented the nominees. He also took the opportunity to make his remarks as outgoing Vice-President.

- Question from HLFU: Martin asked whether it is possible to accept nominations from the floor.
  - Answer from the Board: The deadline has passed to accept nominations. A call has been sent out via email with appropriate time given for submissions.
  - From the floor: There are several organizations/people who did not receive such email.
  - Daria, on behalf of the Board, emphasized the importance of given up-to-date contact information so that emails do not get lost.
  - Sidsel, on behalf of the Board, stated that the Constitution and the AGM working format did not explicitly state the process for accepting nominations and therefore is open to interpretation.
  - Answer from the Board: In light of this development, nominations from the floor will be accepted. Approved; no objections.
  - From the floor: The new Board should look into developing a clear procedure regarding nominations that can be followed for the near future.
- a) President (2-year term)  
Nominee: Victor Rehn, Finland. Elected with 12 out of 12 votes.
  - b) Vice-President (2-year term)  
Nominee: Bowen Tang, Canada. Elected with 12 out of 12 votes.
  - c) Secretary (1-year term)  
Nominee: Astrid Fejrø, Denmark. Elected with 12 out of 12 votes
  - d) Board Member (1-year term)
    - Statement from Jugehörig: Manuel nominated himself as a candidate for Board Member.
    - From the floor: Avi, IFHOH observer and vote inspector, declared that he has to leave the AGM. Ruth, IFHOH observer, has kindly offered to fill in his place.

Nominees:

Glenn Storsletten, Norway. 8 votes, elected.

Manuel Rohrbach, Switzerland. 4 votes.

## 18. Election of the Auditor for 2017.

Note: At this point, three delegates have left the AGM due to flight schedule. The new quorum was declared: 3 board members, 9 delegates, and 11 observers.

Jenna Junttila, Finland, is elected; no objections.

## 19. Presentation of the Committees.

- a) Communication and Information Committee, presented by Bowen, Vice-President.
  - 2 newsletters have been published, always looking for articles and people to join the team
- b) Expansion Committee, presented by Alper, IED.
  - Welcomed HLAA as our newest member, nothing further to report
- c) Summer Camp Committee, presented by Sidsel, Høreforeningen.

- Final planning is underway; 1.5 months to go!
  - 63 participants from 12 different countries are attending
- d) Study Session Committee, presented by Camilla, Svenska Hörsselförbundet.
- Camilla reiterated that the study session proposal has been accepted by Council of Europe. Tentative date: Spring 2017.
  - She asked the AGM floor to spread the word out, particularly to recruit people in joining the preparatory team.

Question from HLFU: Martin suggested that Communication and Information Committee merge with Expansion Committee with the new name: Communication & Member Committee. Approved; no objections.

## 20. Motions

No motions have been submitted for this AGM. Jenna, Kuuloliitto Ry, suggested that the Board look into the feasibility of increasing number of people on the Board.

## 21. Future Planning

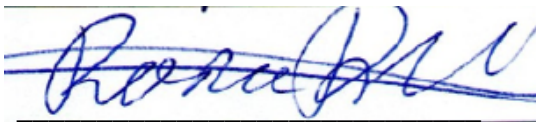
- a) Annual General Meetings
  - 2017 – Helsinki, Finland – hosted by Kuuloliitto Ry & Svenska Hörsselförbundet
  - 2018 – TBD
- b) Summer Camps
  - 2018 – Netherlands. Sara read a statement from Sh-Jong Board to host the summer camp for 2016.
- c) Study Sessions in cooperation with the Council of Europe
  - 2017 – Budapest, Hungary (tentative date: March 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>)

## 22. Any Other Business

Rasmus, Chairman, thanked everyone for attending and HLAA for hosting the AGM.

## 23. Closing the Annual General Meeting

The AGM is closed at 15:33.



Rasmus Draklander, Sweden  
**AGM Chairman**



Bowen Tang, Canada  
**AGM Secretary**



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Avi Blau, Israel  
**Minutes Inspector & Vote Counter**



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Juha Hietala, Finland  
**Minutes Inspector & Vote Counter**